CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1464
17 June 1997

Original: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 17 JUNE 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ITALY ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING A STATEMENT OF THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT ON THE POLICY ON ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES ISSUED ON 13 JUNE 1997

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a statement issued by the Italian Government on 13 June 1997 on the Policy on Anti-personnel Landmines.

I would be grateful if this text could be registered as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament and distributed to all member States and non-member States participating in the work of the Conference.

(Signed): Giuseppe Baldoni Acqua
Ambassador

STATEMENT OF THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT ON THE POLICY ON ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES ISSUED ON 13 JUNE 1997

To integrate the measures already adopted on the ban of production and export of APLs and the initiation of their destruction, the Italian Government agreed on the opportunity to renounce to the operational use of anti-personnel landmines. The decision, which responds to the needs expressed by the internal and international public opinion, has been adopted in order to contribute to reaching a solid international understanding and a definitive solution to the problem caused by APLs.

To this end, consistently with the relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly as well as with the objectives of the E.U., Italy will continue to actively operate in the framework of the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva and to follow the "Ottawa Process" so that - through the complementarity of the actions in the two Fora - the International community be able to design a set of effective norms supported by the largest possible number of States.